His Majeſties

MOST GRACIOUS

LETTER

TO THE

PARLIAMENT

OF

SCOTLAND.

WILLIAM R.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE great Deſire We have to Promote and Advance the Intereſt of that Our Antient Kingdom, did make Us Intend to have Held this Seſſion of Parliament in Perſon, that We might the more clearly have Diſcerned what is yet needful to be done, for the full Eſtabliſhment of your Religion, Laws and Liberties. And as Our Deſign in coming to *Britain*, was the Relief and Happineſs of the three Kingdoms, ſo We are firmly Reſolved to make it the chief Deſign of Our Reign, to do every Thing that may tend to the Advantage and Good of Our Subjects.

The preſent Circumſtances of Our Affairs Abroad, not Allowing of Our being with You at preſent; We have Appointed Our right Truſty and right Intirely Beloved Couſin and Counſellor, *James* Duke of *Queensberry*, to Repreſent

preſent Our Royal Perſon: and to be Our Commiſſioner in this Seſſion. We are fully Satisfied with his Fitneſs and Ability, for Diſcharging this Truſt: And We Doubt not but his conſtant Loyalty to Us, ſince Our Acceſſion to the Crown, and his Zeal and Fidelity for Our Service, and the Proſperity and Good of the Kingdom, which has Appeared on all the Occaſions, and in all the Truſts wherein he has been Imployed, will render him Acceptable to you.

We have fully Inſtructed him in all Things that We think may fall under your Conſideration, and ſeems to be neceſſary at preſent: Therefore We Deſire that you may give him Intire Truſt and Credit.

The Breaking out of War in ſome places of *Europe*, the great Arming by Sea and Land, the uncertain State of the publick Peace, and the continued Deſigns of Our Enemies both at Home and Abroad, cannot but Convince you that it is neceſſary for your own Safety, that the Forces be maintained. And We expect that you will chearfully Supply Us, with ſufficient Funds for that End.

We are heartily ſorry for the Misfortunes and Loſſes that the Nation has Suſtained in their Trade, and We will effectually Concur in any thing that may Contribute for Promoting and Encouraging of Trade, that being ſo indiſpenſably needful for the Welfare of the Nation. And We do particularly Recommend to you the Incouraging of Manufactures, and the Improvement of the Native Product of the Kingdom, which is not only the ſureſt Foundation of Forraign Trade, but will be an effectual Way for Providing and Imploying the Poor, whoſe Circumſtances require your Conſideration and Aſſiſtance.

We give you full Aſſurance, that We will Maintain your Religion, Laws and Liberties, and *Presbyterian* Government, as it is Eſtabliſhed; and it will be moſt Acceptable to Us, that you fall upon effectual Methods for preventing the growth of Popery and diſcouraging Vice and Immorality.

We have had many eminent Proofs of your Loyalty and good Affection to Us, particularly in all your Proceedings in the laſt Seſſion; for which We return you Our hearty Thanks. And ſeing We have Demanded nothing of you upon this Occaſion, but what is both neceſſary for your Preſervation againſt the Deſigns or Attempts of your Enemies, and for Promoting the Welfare and Advantage of the Nation; Therefore We doubt not but you will act with Unanimity and Diſpatch, ſo as all that comes before you, may be concluded to the mutual Satisfaction of Us and Our People, and Aſſuring you of Our Royal Favour and Protection. We bid you heartily Farewell.

Given at Our Court at Hamptoun-Court *the 25th Day of* April 1700, *and of Our Reign the* 12*th Year.*

By His Majeſties Command,

Sic ſubſcribitur, CARMICHAELL.

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